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Mortality in Bombay City.

	Week ended—		Average of same week 1900-1904.
	Mar. 14, 1905.	Mar. 15, 1904.	
Plague deaths.....	683	904	923
Plague mortality per 1,000.....	45.89	60.57	61.85
Smallpox deaths.....	172	27	68
Cholera deaths.....	0	39	11
Total deaths.....	1,565	1,491	1,993
Total mortality per 1,000.....	104.87	99.91	131.99
Deaths from measles.....	22	11	36
Deaths from enteric fever.....	4	3	1
Deaths from malarial fever.....	51	53	177

It is a remarkable fact that with the slight rise in temperature which has occurred during the past week there has been great improvement in the health of the city. At the beginning of March the minimum temperature was about 68° F., following after a long spell of weather with the figure below 60°, which was unusually cold for Bombay. The minimum during the past few days has run up to 73°, with a maximum over 84°. As a result there has been a remarkable improvement in health conditions. Within the week the plague mortality dropped from 860 to 683, representing nearly 20 per cent in 7 days. The phenomenon of the relation of temperature to the intensity of the plague epidemic has been closely noted in previous years, but improvement has never before followed so closely on the first indication of warm weather. It is generally believed that the improved condition which arises on the reappearance of the hot weather is due wholly to the fact that the people leave their houses and sleep in the open, and that there is less crowding in insanitary buildings.

There is doubtless ground for this theory, but it does not seem possible that it can account for the entire phenomenon. Some of the worst phases of plague epidemic in the city have occurred at temperatures as high as and higher than those now recorded. The fact remains that there is an immediate response in the increased or decreased activity of plague as the temperature moves up or down. Possibly a close watch on the habits of the people in certain sections of the city might help to unravel the mystery. In some crowded sections there has been a drop; elsewhere a rise or stationary figure during the week. If it be true that, as heretofore, the height of the epidemic lasts but 10 weeks, then Bombay should soon be free from plague.

Report from Calcutta—Inspection and fumigation of vessel—Cholera and plague mortality.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Eakins reports, March 16, as follows:

During the week ended March 11, 1905, bill of health was issued to the steamship *Liebenfels*, bound for Boston and New York, with a total crew of 56. The usual precautions were taken, holds fumigated, rat guards placed on wharf lines, and Lascars' effects disinfected.

During the week ended March 11, 1905, there were 32 deaths from cholera and 315 deaths from plague in Calcutta.

In Bengal during the week ended March 4, 1905, there were 6,878 cases and 5,827 deaths from plague.

In India during the same week there were 39,357 cases and 34,139 deaths.